

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims to read as indicated herein.

1. (currently amended) A method of reducing effects of varying environmental conditions on a measuring instrument having a measuring unit, said method comprising: thermally insulating said measuring unit such that ~~the~~ effects of varying environmental conditions on selected components of said measuring unit are substantially reduced, while allowing dissipated heat generated within said measuring unit to leave said measuring unit ; and controlling a first temperature in said measuring unit by means of a control loop having a temperature sensor and means to influence said first temperature in said measuring unit in such a way that temperatures at locations with selected components are kept substantially constant, wherein said first temperature in said measuring unit is related to an ambient temperature, and wherein said first temperature is controlled within a range of ~~the~~ an order of ~~the~~ an expected variation of ~~the~~ said ambient temperature.

2. (currently amended) ~~Method as in~~ The method of claim 1, wherein said step of thermally insulating comprises arranging a thermal barrier between said measuring unit and a housing of said measuring instrument.

3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method of as in claim 1, wherein said first temperature in said measuring unit is above said ambient temperature.

5. (currently amended) A method of reducing effects of varying environmental conditions on a measuring instrument having a measuring unit, said method comprising:

thermally insulating said measuring unit such that ~~the~~ effects of varying environmental conditions on selected components of said measuring unit are substantially reduced, while allowing dissipated heat generated within said measuring unit to leave said measuring unit; ~~and;~~ and controlling a first temperature in said measuring unit by means of a control loop having a temperature sensor and means to influence said first temperature in said measuring unit in such a way that temperatures at locations with selected components are kept substantially constant, wherein said step of controlling a first temperature includes: directing air to said measuring unit utilizing a fan; heating said air directed to said measuring unit; and measuring ~~the~~ a temperature of said heated air and using said measured temperature as an input signal to said control loop.

6. (currently amended) ~~Method as in~~ The method of claim 5, comprising the additional steps of:

measuring a temperature ( $\eta_{amb}$ ) close to said housing where ambient air enters said measuring instrument; and deriving from said temperature ( $\eta_{amb}$ ) an additional input signal to said control loop.

7. (currently amended) ~~Method as in~~ The method of claim 1, wherein said measuring instrument includes a liquid chromatography detector.

8. (currently amended) A measuring instrument that includes a measuring unit having components that are sensitive to varying environmental conditions, said measuring instrument comprising:

thermal insulation arranged in said measuring instrument so as to substantially reduce effects of said varying environmental conditions on selected components, and to permit dissipated heat generated within said measuring unit to leave said measuring unit; and

a controller for controlling a first temperature in said measuring unit, said controller having:

a temperature sensor; and

means to influence said first temperature in such a way that temperatures at locations ~~with~~ of said selected components are kept substantially constant,

wherein said first temperature in said measuring unit is related to an ambient temperature, and

wherein said first temperature is controlled within a range of ~~the~~ an order of ~~the~~ an expected variation of ~~the~~ said ambient temperature.

9. (currently amended) ~~Measuring instrument as in~~ The measuring instrument of claim 8, wherein said thermal insulation comprises a thermal barrier arranged between said measuring unit and a housing of said measuring instrument.

10. (previously presented) A measuring instrument that includes a measuring unit having components that are sensitive to varying environmental conditions, said measuring instrument comprising:

thermal insulation arranged in said measuring instrument so as to substantially reduce effects of said varying environmental conditions on selected components, and to permit dissipated heat generated within said measuring unit to leave said measuring unit; and

a controller for controlling a first temperature in said measuring unit, said controller having:

a temperature sensor;

means to influence said first temperature in such a way that temperatures at

locations with said selected components are kept substantially constant;

a fan for directing air to said measuring unit;

a heater for heating said directed air;

a temperature sensor for measuring a temperature of said heated air; and

a control loop connected to said temperature sensor and to said heater.

11. (currently amended) ~~Measuring instrument as in~~ The measuring instrument of claim 10, further comprising an additional temperature sensor located in close proximity to said housing where ambient air enters said measuring instrument, ~~and~~ wherein said additional temperature sensor provides an additional input signal to said control loop.

12. (currently amended) A measuring instrument that includes a measuring unit having components that are sensitive to varying environmental conditions, said measuring instrument comprising:

thermal insulation arranged in said measuring instrument so as to substantially reduce effects of said varying environmental conditions on selected components, and to permit dissipated heat generated within said measuring unit to leave said measuring unit; and

a controller for controlling a first temperature in said measuring unit, said controller having:

a temperature sensor; and

means to influence said first temperature in such a way that temperatures at

locations with said selected components are kept substantially constant,

wherein said measuring unit includes:

a flow cell through which solvent can flow; and

additional means for adapting a solvent inlet temperature to a temperature of

~~the flow cell~~ an environment of said flow cell.

13. (currently amended) ~~Method as in~~ The method of claim 1, wherein said first temperature is above said ambient temperature by about one half of said expected variation of said ambient temperature.

14. (currently amended) ~~Method as in~~ The method of claim 1, wherein said measuring instrument comprises a liquid chromatography absorbance detector.

15. (previously presented) The measuring instrument of claim 8, wherein said measuring instrument comprises an optical detector.